

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138918
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMCONSUL HAMBURG

UNCLAS STATE 138918

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, GW

SUBJECT: MEAT EXPORTS TO FRG; INTEREST OF SENATOR
STEVENSON (ILLINOIS)

1. SENATOR ADLAI STEVENSON (ILLINOIS) HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING AN APPOINTMENT BETWEEN HIS CONSTITUENTS AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF FRG MINISTRY OF YOUTH, FAMILY AND HEALTH. THE CONSTITUENTS, ELDON LOGSDON AND NANCY CHILTON-LOGSDON OF MOUNT STERLING, ILLINOIS, HAVE ENTERED INTO A U.S. PARTNERSHIP FOR THE EXPORT OF BEEF BY AIR FREIGHT TO GERMANY. FOR THIS PURPOSE THEY HAVE UNDER NEGOTIATION AN ARRANGEMENT WITH TWO GERMANS, MANFRED FREIMANN AND ELKA OBLAENDER FROM THE HANOVER REGION. THE GERMANS ARE IN THE HOTEL AND RESTAURANT BUSINESS AND ARE POTENTIAL IMPORTERS OF U.S. BEEF. STEVENSON'S
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 138918

OFFICE REPORTS THAT AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FOR THIS TRADE HAS BEEN REACHED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FRG HEALTH CERTIFICATION.

2. THE PARTIES HAVE ALLEGEDLY NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING THE PROCESS STARTED TO OBTAIN A HEALTH

CERTIFICATE FROM THE FRG TO IMPORT THE BEEF. THIS REQUIRES INTER ALIA AN ON-SITE INSPECTION OF THE U.S. PLANT LOCATED AT MOUNT STERLING, ILLINOIS, BY FRG INSPECTORS. THE PARTIES STATE THAT THEY HAVE HAD DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING AN APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AT THE FRG MINISTRY OF HEALTH. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT A DR. BUSCH OF THAT MINISTRY MAY BE THE RIGHT PERSON. THE PURPOSE OF SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE TO INITIATE THE REQUIRED ACTION TO OBTAIN A DECISION ON ISSUING THE HEALTH CERTIFICATE.

3. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED AT ITS DISCRETION TO CONTACT THE MINISTRY AND IDENTIFY THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL FOR THE PURPOSE DESCRIBED ABOVE. ALSO, IF APPROPRIATE PLEASE MAKE TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A MEETING WITH THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL ANY TIME WITHIN 2-3 WEEKS OF RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE. STEVENSON'S CONSTITUENTS WILL ARRANGE TO TRAVEL TO GERMANY AND, TOGETHER WITH THEIR GERMAN PARTNERS, CALL ON THE MINISTRY. THEY, OF COURSE, WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE DETAILS AND NO FURTHER EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT IS REQUIRED. FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO STEVENSON'S OFFICE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CANNOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BONA FIDES OF THE ARRANGEMENT. WE ARE MERELY FACILITATING COMMUNICATIONS.
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 138918

4. EMBASSY EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED. WE WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST SENATOR STEVENSON AND AT THE SAME TIME PROMOTE U.S. EXPORTS. VANCE

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NNN

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